REMARKS

Remaining Claims

Twenty-four (24) claims (Claims 2, 4 – 11, 14 – 20, 22, 25 – 28, 30, 32 and 33) remain pending in this application through this Amendment. Claims 2, 4 – 8, 11, 14, 22, 25, 30, 32 and 33 have been amended herein. As explained in more detail below, Applicant submits that all claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully request such action.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 3 – 8, 13 – 14, 17 – 20, 24 – 25, 27, 31 – 33 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Independent claim 2 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of claim 3, which has been cancelled. Independent claim 11 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of claims 12 and 13, which have been cancelled. Independent claim 22 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of claims 23 and 24, which have been cancelled. Independent claim 30 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of claim 31, which has been cancelled.
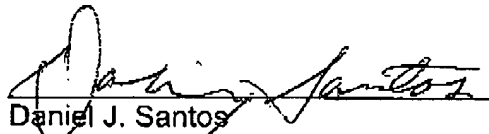
Accordingly, all of the claims are believed to be allowable. The rejection of Claims 2, 9-12, 15-16, 22-23, 28, 30 are rejected under 35 USC §§102(b) and 103 are believed to be moot in view of these amendments.

CONCLUSION

For the reasons set forth above, it is respectfully submitted that all pending claims are now in condition for allowance, and Applicant requests a Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. Should there be any further questions or concerns, the Examiner is urged to telephone the undersigned to expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,
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